

RAMSBOTTOM  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



**ANNUAL REPORTS**  
**OF THE**  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
**AND**  
**SANITARY INSPECTOR.**  
**1920.**

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RAMSBOTTOM :  
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LIST OF ACTS AND SECTIONS THEREOF  
ADOPTED BY THE  
RAMSBOTTOM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

- I. Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890.
- II. Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907.

Part II.

Sections 34, 35, 36, 38, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 49,  
50 and 51, comprised in :—

Part III.

Part IV.

Part V.

Part VI.

Sections 79, 80, 81 and 86 of

Part VII.

Part VIII.

Part IX and

Sections 92, 93 and 95 of

Part X.

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THE FOLLOWING BYE-LAWS  
ARE IN FORCE IN THE  
DISTRICT :—

- I. The Cleansing of Footways and Pavements.
- II. Nuisances.
- III. Common Lodging-Houses.
- IV. New Streets and Buildings.
- V. Slaughter-Houses.
- VI. Hackney Carriages.



# The Ramsbottom Urban District Council.

COUNCILLORS \*J. HARRISON  
\*J. KAY (CHAIRMAN)  
J. R. NUTTALL  
T. PINKERTON  
\*S. PLUNKETT  
D. SHILTON  
J. B. SMITH  
T. Y. SUTCLIFFE  
\*G. TAYLOR  
\*J. TAYLOR  
R. WHITTAKER  
\*J. H. WOOD

\*Members of the Public Health Committee.



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TO THE RAMSBOTTOM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

# THE ANNUAL REPORT

## OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN :

I have the honour to present you with my Report for the year ending December 31st, 1920, on matters bearing upon the Public Health and sanitary condition of the Urban District of Ramsbottom. Altogether the year has been a fairly satisfactory one : the birth-rate was higher and the death-rate lower than in the year preceding, and excepting Whooping Cough, no disease occurred in serious epidemic form.

The Ramsbottom Urban District nestles in the Irwell Valley, twelve miles north of Manchester. Its approximate area is 6423 acres and besides the town itself includes the following villages :— Edenfield, Shuttleworth, Holcombe, Summerseat, and the smaller ones of Holcombe Brook, Nuttall, Stubbins, Chatterton & Strongstry. It is divided into four Wards : Central, East, North and West, and at the census the population was 15,146, inhabited houses, 3701. The river Irwell here is 400 feet above sea-level and the land on either side of it rises more or less quickly to a height, in several places on either side, of over 1500 feet. The valley itself from side to side is from one to two miles wide and is seamed by many streamlets on their way to the river. The land generally is cultivated only to the extent of producing hay and suitable grazing ; milk production being the principal object of the farmers. The hills on either side, composed of millstone grit, are extensively quarried (particularly on the east) for building, paving and road making material. The subsoil varies from clay to a sandy gravel ; the latter in greater measure. The rainfall is above average and a good deal of water is impounded on the hillside streams for industrial purposes. For similar purposes one or two wells sunk to a depth of over 300-feet are yielding a plentiful supply of suitable water. -

The District is an industrial one and the principal industries are cotton and woollen spinning and weaving. In addition to these, which employ the greatest proportion of the workers, there is a considerable variety of other industries, for instance, several engineering works, bleaching, calico printing and dyeing, two paper mills, soap works, several smaller works ancillary to the principal ones, and as already mentioned, quarrying. The rate of female occupation is high as is manifest from the following figures taken from the local records of the National Registration Act of 1915 :— Occupied males 4,412, occupied females 5,752.

#### VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated population of the Ramshotom Urban District for the middle of the year 1920, as supplied by the Registrar General, is 15,283. This number is to be used both for birth-rate and death-rate calculations; demobilisation in 1920, (except in some special areas) having reached such a stage as to make any distinction between birth-rate populations and death-rate populations unnecessary.

**BIRTHS.**—The registered number of births for the year was 274 (males 131, females 143). 2 males and 3 females were illegitimate. The birth-rate is therefore, 17.92 per 1,000. For the preceding year the figures were : Registered births 210 (males 100, females 110), illegitimate 4 males, 11 females. Birth-rate 13.7 per 1,000. Birth-rate for England and Wales 1920, 25.4 per 1000.

**DEATHS.**—The registered number of deaths was 185 (males 90, females 95), which is equal to a death-rate of 12.10 per 1,000. The figures for the preceding year were : Registered deaths 211 (males 92, females 119). Death-rate 14.3 per 1,000. Death-rate for England and Wales 1920, 12.4 per 1,000.



VITAL STATISTICS  
PER 1,000 OF THE POPULATION.

RAMSBOTTOM	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Epidemic Death Rate	Phthisis Death Rate	Rate of Deaths under 1 year to 1000 Births
1920 .....	17.9	12.1	0.52	0.85	94
1919 .....	13.7	14.3	0.40	0.74	71
Mean of 10 years, 1910-1919.....	15.4	14.6	0.90	0.94	97
Increase or Decrease in 1920 on previous year .....	+ 4.2	-2.2	+ 0.12	+ 0.11	+ 23
On ten years' average.....	+ 2.5	-2.5	-0.38	-0.09	-3

## PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES—11 (males 5, females 6); preceding year 27 (males 9, females 18). They were Diphtheria 4, Influenza 3, Whooping Cough 2, Diarrhœa 2.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES (excluding Phthisis) 26 (males 9, females 17); preceding year 32 (males 17, females 15). They were Bronchitis 14 (males 5, females 9) and Pneumonia 12 (males 4, females 8).

TUBERCULOSIS: Pulmonary 13 (males 9, females 4); preceding year 11 (males 5, females 6). Other forms of Tuberculosis, 3 (males 2, females 1), all from Tuberculous Meningitis; preceding year, 5 females.

ORGANIC HEART DISEASES: 20 (males 10, females 10); preceding year, 12 (males 4, females 8).

MALIGNANT DISEASES: 16 (males 6, females 10); preceding year, 26 (males 5, females 21).

NEPHRITIS AND BRIGHT'S DISEASE: 10 (males 7, females 3); preceding year, 14 (males 5, females 9).

VIOLENT DEATHS: 8 (males 4, females 4); preceding year, 4 (males 1, females 3).

SUICIDAL DEATHS: 3 (males 2, females 1); preceding year, 3 (males 2, females 1).

INFANT DEATHS: 26 (males 13, females 13); preceding year, 15 (males 9, females 6).

From all other defined diseases (2 ill-defined or unknown), 36 males and 39 females died. Included in these deaths are 12 from Cerebral Hæmorrhage and 14 from old age.

## INFANT MORTALITY.

Registered Births during 1920.....	274
Registered Deaths.....	26
Infant Mortality rate .....	94 per 1,000 born.
Infant Mortality rate for 1919 .....	71 per 1,000 born.
For England and Wales, 1920.....	80 per 1,000 born.

The Causes of Death were : Prematurity and other congenital defects, 9 ; Bronchitis, 2 ; Pneumonia, 2 ; Whooping Cough, 1 ; Meningitis (one tuberculous), 3 ; Diarrhœa, 2 ; Syphilis, &c., 5 ; Atalectasis, 2.

Amongst these deaths are a dozen or so due to preventable causes, and this fact greatly emphasises the necessity for fore-knowledge on the part of parents, especially young parents and guardians, in the care of infants. In far too many instances the young mother, through ignorance, feels herself at sea in mothercraft and has to rely upon the advice of her seniors, not always very expert and often contradictory, so that she is more befogged than ever when the baby is not thriving. A knowledge of feeding, clothing, nursing and ventilation is very essential to a mother and young women would wisely take every opportunity of acquiring information in these subjects as well as of general hygiene, and particularly the hygiene of babyhood, for sooner or later the call comes to most of them to put their knowledge into practice.

To those who have had the misfortune to contract syphilis, even if it was years ago, I would make an urgent appeal ; go at once to your medical adviser who can, if you will follow his advice, afford you every prospect of a permanent cure, for until you are thoroughly cured, any children you may desire and unfortunately beget, even if they survive an early death, will continue to be a reproach to you and ultimately in large measure become a burden to themselves and others.

Table of Births and Infant Deaths for the last 10 years :—

Year	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Births	271	266	270	279	237	243	189	169	210	274
Deaths	39	27	32	26	24	19	17	15	15	26

POOR LAW RELIEF : Mr. Edward Hutchinson, the Relieving Officer, kindly informs me that the total out-relief granted in Ramsbottom during 1920, was £497 7 6 ; for the preceding year out-relief equalled £336 16 0.

The following statistics are taken from the report for the year ending December 31st, 1920, of the Ramsbottom Cottage Hospital (9 beds and 2 cots), and Sick Nursing Association. The number of patients admitted to hospital was 114 (surgical 94, medical 20) ; 24 were accident cases, 54 operations were performed, all successfully. The number of out-patients treated at the hospital was 265 ; visits for treatment (surgical), numbered 4,218. The average number of beds occupied was 7 5 and the average period in hospital was 24 days. There were 8 deaths, *i.e.* 3 adult males, 2 adult females and 3 female children.

DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION (one nurse). The District Nurse attended 110 cases and made 2,960 visits. The above figures shew that more work is being done, both at the Hospital and in the District and that the Institutions are an increasing boon to the neighbourhood.

#### WATER SUPPLY.

The principal water supply to the District is by the Bury and District Joint Water Board on which you have two representatives. This Board altogether supplies 38,272 houses with a population of 174,425, and the reservoirs under its control have a capacity of over 1,168 million gallons. The supply is constant, the water rather soft, of good quality and fairly abundant. Only in dry seasons are the inhabitants by public notice requested to be econ-

omical in using it. Gravity does not raise it to our highest dwellings so that the village of Holcombe has to depend upon springs and wells.

Mr. R. B. Rigby, the Joint Board's General Manager, kindly supplied me with the following particulars of houses, etc., connected to the mains during the year:—

HOUSES—14. In Rowland's Road, Moss Street, Castle Street and Minnie Street, Summerseat, formerly on the Bassfield Private Supply.

„ 3. At Lammy Bank, Summerseat.

„ 1. In Tanners Street, Ramsbottom.

BATHS—14.

WATER CLOSETS—20.

MISCELLANEOUS—3.

#### PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES.

Higher Buckden Reservoir	...	...	...	72	houses	piped	supply
Ox Hey Springs and Storage	...	...	...	41	„	„	„
Tanners Estate Hydraulic and Storage	...	...	...	20	„	„	„
Woodside Spring and Storage	...	...	...	12	„	„	„
Hazlehurst Spring and Storage	...	...	...	50	„	„	„
Edenfield Spring and Storage	...	...	...	29	„	„	„
Pinfold Reservoir	...	...	...	25	„	„	„
Plunge Hydraulic and Storage...	...	...	...	17	„	„	„

About 300 farms and isolated dwellings are supplied by wells and springs. Two complaints were made during the year: one that the water was dirty, was found to be due to cattle having access to the neighbourhood of the source, some pipes also were found to be broken and these were renewed, while the source itself was fenced about to protect it from cattle. The other was of insufficiency which the landlord undertook to rectify.

No complaints of pollution of streams were received during the year.

The District is sewered throughout. The system is a combined one of sewage and surface water and the outfall is at the sewage disposal works, at Summerseat. For extensions, etc., during the year see page 15.

The details regarding collection and disposal of pail closet contents and other refuse are given in the Sanitary Inspector's Report, pages 7—9, where also is given the approximate number of the various types of closets, middens and ashbins existing at the end of the year.

The following Table gives the number of conversions to W.C.'s. and additional Ashbins provided since 1914:—

	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Privy Middens ... ..	66	58	13	1	1	7	1
Pails ... ..	37	31	2	12	0	6	0
Waste Water Closets ...	2	8	0	4	0	2	7
New Ashbins Provided ...	52	42	11	4	1	15	5

#### STREET AND ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, HOUSING, SEWERAGE, &c.

(Particulars kindly provided by Mr T. H. Bell, Surveyor.)

The high costs of materials and labour have influenced the Local Authority to the extent of reducing their expenditure on Road and Sewer Works as far as could be reasonably done.

The County Council made a grant of £2191 for the maintenance, repair and improvement of the total length of  $11\frac{1}{8}$  miles of Main Roads and the actual expenditure on such roads has been approximately £2350. In addition, grants were offered to cover the cost of several Special Improvements on the Main Roads which have been completed during the year as follows:—Reconstruction of water-bound macadam to tar-macadam on Burnley Road, at a cost of £2653; laying of granite paving on a concrete foundation, in lieu of local setts, in Market Street, Edenfield, £2,896; and repairs and tarpainting of tar-macadam surfaces at a cost of £509. The maintenance and repair of the length of



Secondary Road forming a connection through the centre of the town, between the two main road routes, Manchester Road and Helmshore Road, has involved an expenditure of £375.

The upkeep of the 15½ miles of District Roads and the general items of expenditure in connection with such roads show a total spending of £2 850, but numerous credit payments in the way of reinstatement charges for openings into streets and other items give an amount in relief of such roads to the extent of £650, which leaves a nett expenditure of £2,200 to be met by the rates in respect of the District Roads.

During the year 29 Building Plans have been lodged with the Council all of which were approved. These plans embody 57 new houses to be erected and one conversion of existing premises into a dwelling house; also 10 plans for works and mill extensions, 2 additions to existing houses, 2 sanitary alterations, 2 lock-up shops, 1 bakehouse extension and 6 miscellaneous plans. The principal plan approved and included in the foregoing was the one submitted by Messrs. Joshua Hoyle & Sons, Ltd., for the laying-out of an estate at Summerseat, embracing in the proposals the erection of 46 houses. Two new dwelling-houses only have been completed during the year ended December 31st, 1920.

#### COUNCIL'S HOUSING SCHEME.

The Local Authority have Contracts in progress for the erection of 50 houses as part of their Housing Scheme in the laying-out of a parcel of land, comprising 8 30 acres, at Bolton Road North, Edenfield, which is easily accessible by means of a Railless Traction Route. The whole of the main sewers, with a total length of 450 yards are laid, and about 60% of the roads are formed and ballasted in readiness for the surface material. None of the houses are as yet completed, although 40 dwelling houses are in various stages of construction. It is hoped that the first pair of houses will be ready for occupation about the end of April, 1921.

### SEWAGE WORKS AND DISPOSAL.

The Ramsbottom Sewage is conveyed by means of trunk sewers to the Sewage Works, which are situated at Summerseat. The treatment is by passing the sewage through large settling tanks, then through bacterial filters fitted with the Ames Crosta Sprinkling Apparatus and after further purification in the humus tanks and land treatment, it is discharged into the River Irwell. The works continue to give a satisfactory effluent and the cost per annum in connection with the Sewage Works, under present conditions, may be taken at £1100.

### REFUSE DESTRUCTOR.

The working of the Refuse Destructor Plant has occasioned no complaints of nuisance and under existing principles of forced draught combustion, the smoke from the chimney stack is never of a dense character and as a rule it is almost negligible. During the twelve months, 2,323 tons of refuse have been delivered at the works, including the tradesmen's refuse which is conveyed direct by tradesmen and others. The annual cost of actual working has been £463, with an addition of £322 for Sinking Fund and Interest Charges, making a total of £785. The cost of destruction of the refuse works out at 6/9 per ton, exclusive of the cost of collection and delivery over the hopper.

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### SCHOOLS.

There are 9 Public Elementary Schools in the district and it was not found necessary to close any of them on account of infectious disease during the year. A few cases of measles having occurred in the senior class of the infant department of Hazlehurst School, the children of this class were excluded from school from July 12th to July 16th.

### SANITARY CONVENIENCES of schools :—

Edenfield School, Fresh Water Closets.

Stubbins, Midden Privy.

St. Paul's, Trough Closet.

St. Joseph's, Trough Closet.



St. Andrew's, Trough Closet.

Holcombe School, Fresh Water Closets (Girls), Pails (Boys).

Summerseat Wesleyan, Pails.

Hazlehurst, Fresh Water Closets.

Peel Brow, Fresh Water Closets.

As regards the Wesleyan School at Summerseat, in my last report I mentioned that it was the intention of the managers to convert the pails to W.C's and connect with the town's water supply. I believe the plans are now completed and the contract let and that the work will be put in hand without undue delay.

## FOOD.

MILK.—There are 68 cow-keepers registered in the Urban District and most of them market their milk amongst the local population. Some, however, send it away by rail to other centres. In addition to the already established dairy in Bolton Street, the local Industrial and Provident Society Limited, in December, took up the supply of milk. This milk comes from the C.W.S. Dairy at Chaigley, in Yorkshire. I had an opportunity recently of visiting this dairy and was very favourably impressed by the scrupulous methods of cleanliness carried out in every department. I was given to understand that the C.W.S. had acquired over 1600 acres of land in this neighbourhood for the purpose of farm and dairy produce of every kind, and had spent many thousands of pounds in research work—still proceeding—to elucidate the problem of a clean milk supply. The results of the research work will be put into practice at Chaigley; meanwhile, the milk there is centrifuged to remove any sediment such as hairs, etc., then pasteurised and chilled before putting it into kits (already sterilized by high pressure steam) ready for transport. All the processes are automatic and the milk never comes into contact with the hands of those engaged in the work. With an available supply of good milk coming into the town from outside, I anticipate beneficial results as regards the local supply, for the element of competition thereby established will act as a fine stimulus to an improvement all round.

The milk supply generally, I think, has improved since my last report. I find at the Child Welfare Centre that mothers are not now so dissatisfied with the quality of their home supply as they were a year ago, being able now to get some cream after letting it stand for a few hours.

Milk is the cheapest food on the market. A comparison in food values issued by the Ministry of Health gives a quart of milk as equal in value to ten hen's eggs. Compare the price of milk with what we have had to pay in recent times for eggs and at once the advantage appears in favour of milk. Fish and flesh of every kind, when likewise compared with milk, appear to the same economic disadvantage. It is a new sense of food values we need to have in place of the largely held present one, *i.e.* that the more expensive the food, the better it is. There is no better food than bread and butter and good milk, and I believe that our young people would be fitter, both physically and mentally if they were allowed to have more milk and less of the more highly seasoned and excitable diets. Objection is made to the insipidity of milk, but that to a large extent can be overcome by suitable preparation; besides, children are not, as a rule, so fastidious as their elders whose palates have lost their pristine sensibilities and may require a stronger stimulant. In addition to ordinary milk there are several good brands of milk powder on the market, which with a little ingenuity in cooking and the help of instructions supplied in pamphlet form by some of the manufacturers, can be made into many excellent and appetising dishes, advantageous alike to digestibility and economy.

For particulars re meat inspection, tuberculous and other diseased meat, and other food stuffs, see Sanitary Inspector's report, page 5.

Number of Slaughter-houses in use in the district :—

	In 1914	In Jany., 1920	In Decr., 1920
Registered...	3	3	3
Licensed ...	9	9	9

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Notifiable.)

137 notifications of infectious diseases were received during the year. This number is much less than for the preceding year and may be attributed to the fact that measles, which had been notifiable since January 1st, 1916, ceased to be so from the end of 1919.

The following table gives a comparison of the notifications in 1920 with those in 1919 :—

Disease.	1920	1919
Diphtheria ... ..	37	18
Erysipelas ... ..	8	6
Scarlet Fever... ..	40	56
Enteric Fever ... ..	1	3
Puerperal Fever ... ..	3	0
Polio-myelitis (acute anterior)	1	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	1	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	6	3
Pneumonia ... ..	20	64
Measles ... ..	0	40
Malaria ... ..	0	4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	14	15
Other forms of „ ...	6	5
	<hr/> 137	<hr/> 214

SMALL-POX.—On account of the prevalence of Small-pox in a town not very far off, you considered it advisable to require notification of all cases of Chicken-pox and an Emergency Order making this disease compulsorily notifiable for a period of six months, was, with consent from the Ministry of Health, made as from November 26th. No case of Small-pox was notified during the year. The vaccination returns continue to be unsatisfactory. Mr. E. Hutchinson, Vaccination Officer, kindly supplied me with the following information, *i.e.*, that he had received during 1920, 88 certificates of successful primary vaccinations and 182 declarations of conscientious objections. Infant vaccination has

been so grossly neglected by parents for a number of years now, that the unvaccinated young people among us must reach a very large percentage indeed—a matter of very great concern to your Public Health Officials and likely to prove serious in the event of an outbreak of Small-pox. I cannot give much authentic information regarding the number of re-vaccinations that have been done recently. A few of the wiser heads of families did resort to re-vaccination for themselves and their children in 1920, but I fear that altogether they make a woefully small total.

**DIPHTHERIA.**—37 cases were notified, more than twice as many as for the year preceding. Diphtheria would appear to have been more prevalent throughout the country last year than in 1919. A reference to the monthly incidence table will shew that the cases were distributed over 11 months with some increase in the months of January, May and September. 29 were removed to hospital and of the 37 cases, 4 died, giving a percentage mortality of 11. 600 units of antidiphtheria serum were issued from the Public Health Office.

**SCARLET FEVER.**—40 cases were notified, the greater proportion during the first six months, see table. 22 were removed to Hospital and no deaths occurred.

**PUERPERAL FEVER.**—3 cases were notified and I am pleased to record that they all recovered.

**OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.**—6 cases were notified, twice as many as for the preceding year. This is a very serious disease, often, and very rapidly, if left untreated, resulting in permanent blindness to one or both eyes, hence the urgency for early and efficient treatment. I am pleased, however, to report from Miss Snell's evidence that all the 6 cases made a complete recovery with no permanent injury to the eyesight.

**POLIOMYELITIS (acute anterior).**—This is the disease known as infantile paralysis. One case was notified, which the doctor in attendance assures me made a very good recovery.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER (or Meningitis).—One case of an infant was notified, which terminated fatally in Monsall Fever Hospital, Manchester. Swabs taken from the throats of three contacts were found to be negative.

PNEUMONIA.—20 cases were notified as against 64 in the preceding year. The greater proportion occurred in the first 6 months of the year and in the month of June there were 5.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Pulmonary 14, preceding year 15; non-pulmonary 6, preceding year 5. Four of the pulmonary cases were admitted to sanatoria and at least two of the non-pulmonary were surgically treated in the local hospital. The following table gives the sex and occupations of all cases:—

Sex.	Occupation.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
Females	Housewife	4	
„	Weaver	2	2
„	Winder	1	
„	Shop Assistant		1
Males	Labourer	1	
„	Weaver	1	
„	Platelayer	1	
„	Bleachworks hand		1
„	Child	1	
„	Tailor	1	
„	Railway Guard	1	
„	Infant		1
„	No Occupation	1	
„	Farmer		1

The table below gives a list of the bacteriological and other investigations made in respect of Infectious Diseases at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester (Professor Sheridan Delepine, Director):—

Specimens of blood examined	...	3
Sputum	„	16
Throat Swabs	„	7
Others	„	3

DISINFECTION of houses where infectious diseases occur is done by fumigation with sulphur candles and by a formaldehyde spray—the latter more frequently—and such clothes and bedding as cannot be efficiently disinfected by washing at home are done at your own disinfecting station at the Destructor Building in Stubbins Lane. 69 houses were disinfected during the year.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—An epidemic of Whooping Cough spread pretty well all over the district during the months of May to September and I regret to say caused the death of two young children (one of them under one year). Several cases of measles occurred amongst the children in one or two of the classes at Hazlehurst School, but the disease did not reach epidemic proportions. Other affections preventing children from attending school were mainly of the nature of colds and sore throats.



TABLE OF MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1920.

Month	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever	Polio-myelitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	Pneumonia	Tuberculosis of the Lungs	Other Forms of Tuberculosis	Total
January .....	5	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	12
February .....	2	4	6	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	...	17
March .....	2	2	9	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	16
April .....	1	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	11
May .....	8	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	13
June .....	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	5	3	1	15
July .....	2	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	1	9
August .....	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	5
September .....	7	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	10
October .....	3	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	9
November .....	2	...	3	...	1	...	1	...	1	2	1	11
December .....	...	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	9
												137

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.  
AGE PERIODS, WARD DISTRIBUTION, AND NUMBER TAKEN TO HOSPITAL.

Notifiable Disease	All Ages		Number of Cases Notified.							Ward Distribution				Cases Removed to Hospital
	Males	Females	under 1 yr.	1-5 years	5-15 years	15-25 years	25-45 years	45-65 years	over 65 yrs	Central Ward	West Ward	East Ward	North Ward	
Diphtheria .....	15	22	...	13	21	3	...	...	...	11	13	13	...	29
Erysipelas.....	2	6	...	...	1	3	3	1	...	5	2	...	1	2
Scarlet Fever.....	17	23	...	10	29	...	1	...	...	10	15	5	10	23
Enteric Fever .....	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever .....	...	3	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	1	1	1	...	1
Poliomyelitis .....	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	2	4	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	1	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Pneumonia.....	11	9	...	3	1	4	2	5	5	5	11	3	1	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	7	7	...	1	...	2	5	4	2	4	3	5	2	4
Other Forms of     "	3	3	1	...	...	1	1	3	...	...	2	2	2	...



## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Practically the whole of our official maternity work is done by Miss Snell, who visits any expectant mothers wishful for her to do so at their homes. Miss Snell finds this part of her duty rather difficult, because of the natural shyness of expectant mothers, and she cannot call upon anyone unless invited to do so. The feeling of resentment against anyone seemingly prying into such intimate family concerns is a very natural one and has to be treated with the greatest courtesy and delicacy ; but to consider it a matter of pure inquisitiveness is, of course, an altogether erroneous idea, for the whole intention of prenatal work is by careful prevision to preserve the health of the mother and the life of her expected baby. There were 10 still-births during the year and a death list like that supplies ample justification for my plea for a closer supervision of pregnancy. Pregnancy is such a normal affair that people are apt to think it needs but little attention until the end of it. Happily, this is the case in the vast majority of instances, but occasionally conditions arise, abnormal and insidious, which, when recognised early enough, can be overcome and the dire results issuing therefrom, prevented ; and just because of their insidiousness every case of pregnancy should, from time to time during the whole course, be subject to expert supervision. I think the midwives practising in the district could help greatly in this work if they would, by recommending their clients to seek, oftener than they do, Miss Snell's supervision, and I hope they will consider these remarks of mine sympathetically.

## CHILD WELFARE.

The work at the Centre in Stubbins Lane continues to increase and it is very gratifying to your officials that the mothers are so enthusiastically keen about it ; one of them recently told me that she thought this the most beneficial work ever started in Ramsbottom.

The increase last year was 135 babies, bringing the total list on the books up to 405 and the sessional average attendance rose to 24. The average attendance during 1919 was 18 and during

1918, 9. These figures speak for themselves and testify to the great popularity of the Centre, a popularity which I have no doubt in my own mind, is justified by results.

A Voluntary Child Welfare Centre was opened on June 8th, at Summerseat, under the superintendence of Miss L. Palmer, (Queen's Nurse), District Visitor at Summerseat. Miss Palmer reports that there are 36 members' names on her books, that the sessional meetings are held once a fortnight and that the average attendance is 8. Dr. George Crawshaw, of Low Wood, Greenmount, is the Consulting Medical Officer.

Here again I would council midwives to take a wider interest in child welfare and when their duties are fulfilled at the puerperium to urge mothers to take their babies to the respective Centres so that they may be constantly under careful supervision.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919.—Under this Order milk was granted free (none at less than cost price) to 17 necessitous families, an increase of 10 families upon the preceding year. The cost of milk so granted was £76 9 11.

#### STATEMENT BY MISS SNELL, HEALTH VISITOR.

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TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, THE CHAIRMAN AND  
MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

The following is a report of my work as Health Visitor during the year 1920.

Notifications of births, 275 ; number of births not notified, 8 ;  
Total 283. Of these 132 were males and 151 females.

10 Stillbirths.

6 Illegitimate.

4 Premature.

Primary visits made 277; subsequent visits 1,376; visits to expectant mothers, 147; visits to children 1 to 5 years, 862; Total visits 2,662.

Visits to houses in which deaths of infants have occurred, 25; of these 5 died within a few hours of birth.

Number of children nursed out under 1 year, 20.

Number of children nursed out between 1 and 2 years, 30.

Total 50.

Method of Feeding :—

182 were naturally fed.

26 were naturally fed for 3 months.

47 were artificially fed from birth.

13 were fed by both methods.

#### LIST OF SPECIAL VISITS.

	Visits.
To 6 Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum (complete recovery)	64
„ 10 Infants with Thrush .....	30
„ 2 „ „ Pneumonia (both fatal).....	15
„ 4 „ „ Bronchitis .....	12
„ 14 „ „ Dyspepsia and Colic.....	64
„ 6 „ „ Umbilical Hernia .....	40
„ 2 „ „ Convulsions.....	26
„ 2 „ „ Diarrhœa.....	22
„ 4 „ „ Chicken-pox .....	10
„ 8 Children with Measles.. ...	18
„ 24 „ „ Whooping Cough .....	48
„ 2 Infants „ Whooping Cough (both fatal).....	10
Miscellaneous visits .....	18
	<hr/>
	377

#### MILK (MOTHERS AND CHILDREN) ORDER, 1919.

Under the above Order 17 families were granted free milk, an increase of 10 on the previous year. The quantity of milk allowed

per day is described in the Order as follows :—

- (a). To expectant or nursing mother,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pints.
- (b). Children under 18 months,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pints.
- (c). Children between 1 and 5 years, 1 pint.

Whooping Cough, a serious ailment amongst children, especially infants, occurred during the summer months ; a great number of children suffered, 2 of which died.

#### INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

The total number of names on the books at the end of the year was 405, an increase of 135 or 50% on the previous year's total.

Number of individual children attending, 215.

Total attendances for the year, 1179, giving a weekly average of 24.

All new members are seen by the Medical Officer of Health on their first visit and particulars taken as to health, weight and feeding of the infant.

Through the help and generosity of the Committee and a few friends, and by small contributions from the mothers, a Christmas Tree and Party was given to the children on December 29th, 1920. The number of children present at this gathering was 174. Each child received a toy, and the mothers, light refreshments.

In concluding my report I would like to thank the ladies who have so kindly helped me at the Centre, also those who have helped me in my department.

Yours obediently,

A. L. SNELL.

#### HOUSING.

The approximate number of houses in the district is 4,000, and of these about 3,900 are working class houses of the following types :—

Type A	2700 Houses, with living room, scullery and 2 bedrooms.
Type B	400 Houses, with living room, scullery and 3 bedrooms.
Type C	300 Houses, with parlour, living room, scullery and 2 bedrooms.
Type D	200 Houses, with parlour, living room, scullery and 3 bedrooms.
Type E	100 Houses, with parlour, living-room, scullery and 4 bedrooms.
Type F	(Tenement Houses) nil.
Type G	200 Houses, with living room, scullery and 4 bedrooms and some with living room and bedroom only.

The estimated population for the middle of the year was 15,283 and any considerable immediate increase is not anticipated. In my report for 1919, it is stated that 100 new houses would be needed during the next three years to meet the demands for growth of population, overcrowding, and to replace unfit houses which cannot be made fit ; also, that plans for 88 houses had been submitted and approved by you. In 1920, Messrs. J. Hoyle and Sons, Ltd , submitted a plan, which you approved, for 46 houses on a very suitable site at Summerseat. This private firm is pushing on with the building of these houses and several pairs are nearing completion. 40 of your own houses are in process of erection and a number of these also are nearly completed. Only two houses were completed during the year.

As regards overcrowding, on a basis of more than two persons to each room in the house, it was estimated that in 1919 there were 200 houses so overcrowded within the Urban District. Whether there were more or less in 1920, it is impossible for me to say, since no complaints of overcrowding were reported to me during the year. I am inclined, therefore, to regard it as little, if any worse last year than in the year preceding. The question of temporary dwellings for the urgent relief of overcrowding was never under consideration.

The shortage of houses is the direct cause of whatever over-

crowding exists and until a sufficient number of new houses have been completed there cannot of course be any relief.

Speaking generally, the standard of houses is very good. The great majority are built of good stone and whatever brick houses exist, such as those at Summerseat, are well-built and commodious. The new houses are all brick-built.

The general character of the defects found in houses inspected under the Housing Acts, are : offensive privy middens, defective drains, insufficient light and ventilation. With regard to defective drains, insufficient light and ventilation, and any necessary structural repairs, as a rule no difficulty arises in getting owners to remedy them, but the conversion of existing undesirable closet accommodation to the water carriage system is not so easy, for since you have not adopted, and I think rightly, Section 39, Part III Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, progress in these conversions is unavoidably slow.

There are no really unhealthy areas in the district, but 400 or so of back-to-back houses which when houses become more plentiful will in part require some reconstruction and converting into through houses. The special report by Mr. Shaw and myself on these back-to-back houses, presented to you during the year, sets out in detail the number, divided into separate classes and what we think is the best method of dealing with them.

The Appendices following give further details of Housing and work done in connection therewith during the year : —

#### HOUSING CONDITIONS. STATISTICS.

Year ended 31st December, 1920.

##### 1.—GENERAL.

(1) Estimated population	...	...	...	...	15,283
(2) General death-rate	...	...	...	...	12.1
(3) Death-rate from Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	0.85
(4) Infantile mortality	...	...	...	...	94.0
(5) Number of dwelling houses of all classes	...	approx.	4,000		
(6) Number of working-class dwelling-houses	...	„	3,800		
(7) Number of new working-class houses erected	...		2		



## 2.—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

## I.—INSPECTION.

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	88*
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1919 ... ..	23
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	none
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	28

## II.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	10
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## III.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. *Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c, Act, 1919.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	none
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—	
(a) by owners ... ..	none
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	none
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ... ..	none

B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	38
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—	
(a) by owners ... ..	32
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners...	none

\*Including 59 houses inspected after Infectious Diseases.

*C. Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.*

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	...	...	...	...	none
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	none
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	3
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	none
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	none

3.—UNHEALTHLY AREAS.

Areas represented to the Local authority with a view to Improvement Schemes under (a), Part I, or (b) Part II of the Act of 1890 :—

(1) Name of area	...	...	...	...	...	—
(2) Acreage	...	...	...	...	...	—
(3) Number of working-class houses in area	...	...	...	...	...	—
(4) Number of working-class persons to be displaced	...	...	...	...	...	—

4.—Number of houses not complying with the building byelaws erected with consent of Local Authority under section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919

none

5.—Staff engaged on housing work with, briefly, the duties of each officer

—

Inspection of existing properties is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910.

The New Housing Scheme is under the supervision of the District Surveyor who has one Architectural Assistant.



In concluding, let me thank you for your consideration and help during the year, and my fellow-officials for their courtesy and very generous assistance in the preparation of my report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

HUGH LAWRIE, M.B.C.M., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## SANITARY INSPECTOR.

**1920.**

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
RAMSBOTTOM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg herewith to submit my report for the year ended 31st December, 1920.

There has been practically no change since 1919 in the general conditions which affect my department and high priced labour and building materials have again been responsible for slow progress in the work of repairing and renovating house properties.

The conversion of midden privies to W.C's.—a most important part of Public Health Work—has been held back, also owing to high costs. The total number of conversions during the year was 9; 8 to the fresh water system and one—where no sewer was available—to the pail system.

Defects of a serious nature have, however, been remedied without undue delay.

The total number of inspections made during the year is 1665, and 678 nuisances have been abated.

Inspection of meat and other foods has had special attention and 2196-lbs. of meat and offals were surrendered for destruction.

The collection of House Refuse has, as usual, been carried out by your own staff, except at Summerseat where the work is let by contract.

TABLE No. 1 is a summary of Inspections made, etc.

„ „ 2 Defects found.

„ „ 3 shows details of defects remedied.

**TABLE 1.**  
SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Dwelling-houses, H.T.P. Act, 1909	...	...	...	...	28
"    "    Others	...	...	...	...	1
"    "    Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	59
Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	...	54
Slaughter-houses...	...	...	...	...	183
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	105
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	48
Offensive Trade Premises	...	...	...	...	13
Market and Shops	...	...	...	...	704
Common Lodging-house	...	...	...	...	1
Visits to Property under observation	...	...	...	...	48
Revisits to work in progress	...	...	...	...	210
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	...	211
Total					1665
Complaints	...	...	...	...	58
Owners seen	...	...	...	...	145
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	12
New drains tested	...	..	...	...	4
Old drains tested...	...	...	...	...	80
Houses Disinfected	...	...	...	...	69
Legal Notices served	...	...	...	...	19
Preliminary Notices and Letters	...	...	...	...	86

**TABLE 2.**  
DEFECTS FOUND.

Defective Closet Receptacles ...	...	...	...	...	...	18
„ Ashbins ...	...	...	...	...	...	30
„ Tipper W.C's. ...	...	...	...	...	...	28
„ (Fresh) W.C's. ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Drains ...	...	...	...	...	...	25
„ side boiler ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ roofs ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ eave gutters and fall-pipes ...	...	...	...	...	...	14
„ sink waste pipes ...	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ paving ...	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ ashpits ...	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ door ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ windows ...	...	...	...	...	...	31
„ plaster ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ walls ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Choked drains ...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Insufficient W.C. accommodation ...	...	...	...	...	...	9
„ ashbin accommodation ...	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ light and ventilation ...	...	...	...	...	...	14
„ water supply ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Offensive accumulations of refuse ...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Workshops requiring lime-washing ...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Drains not connected to sewer... ..	...	...	...	...	...	16
Sink waste pipes and fallpipes requiring disconnection ...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Smoke nuisance ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cellar drains ...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Offensive midden privies ...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Total ...						274

**TABLE 3.**  
DEFECTS REMEDIED.

Midden privy converted to fresh water closet	...	...	1
Tipper closets converted to fresh water closets	...	...	7
Midden privy converted to pail closet (no sewer available)...			1
Drains reconstructed	...	...	14
Drains repaired	...	...	5
Drains opened and cleansed	...	...	17
Tipper W.C. drains opened	...	...	493
Drains connected to main sewer	...	...	9
Ashpits abolished	...	...	4
Additional ashbins provided	...	...	5
Defective ashbins replaced	...	...	20
Defective closet receptacles replaced	...	...	18
Tipper W.C.'s. repaired	...	...	14
Water Closets (fresh water) repaired	...	...	2
Sink waste pipes and fallpipes disconnected from drains	...		4
Roofs repaired	...	...	5
Walls and plaster repaired	...	...	12
Door repaired	...	...	1
New windows fixed	...	...	30
Refuse accumulations removed	...	...	5
Premises lime-washed and cleansed	...	...	5
Cellar drains taken out	...	...	3
Defective sink waste pipes repaired	...	...	3
Additional W.C.'s provided	...	...	9
Defective eave gutters and fallpipes repaired	...	...	11
Cellars drained	...	...	2
Defective paving repaired	...	...	1
Total			701

### SALE OF FOODS AND DRUGS ACTS.

The authority in regard to the above Acts is—as far as Ramsbottom is concerned—the County Council and the work is carried out by the Police. Superintendent Pickering has kindly supplied details of samples purchased in Ramsbottom during 1920. One sample of milk was found deficient in quality and a fine of £10 and costs was imposed.

#### Samples Purchased :—

Lard	...	...	...	...	2
Tea	...	...	...	...	2
Cream of Tartar	...				2
Coffee	...	...	...	...	2
Pepper...	...	...	.		2
Ginger...	...	...	...		2
Baking Powder	..	...			1
Mustard	...	...	...		1
Milk	...	...	...	...	21

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### BAKEHOUSES.

The number of Bakehouses on the register is twenty, an increase of two over last year's total. There is one underground bakehouse and three where power has been adopted. The latter, although legally being factories, are still supervised by your Sanitary Inspector. Beyond one or two arrears regarding limewashing, the bakehouses have been satisfactorily maintained.

### SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

There are 12 slaughter-houses in the district, 3 of which are registered and 9 licensed.

While meat was under Government control, four slaughter-houses only were in regular use. Butchers slaughtered in groups and the work of meat inspection was much facilitated, abortive visits being reduced to a minimum. It was apparent during this

period that in the absence of a central depôt for slaughtering, meat inspection could never be considered satisfactory. However, the quality of meat supplied in the town is generally of an excellent quality and speaks well for the sound judgment exercised by the butchers when making their purchases.

The total amount of meat and offals surrendered, owing to Tubercular affection, was 1447-lbs., including a bullock weighing 800-lbs. Meat and offals surrendered for other causes totalled 749-lbs., including three pigs, making a gross total surrendered during the year of 2196-lbs.

#### OFFENSIVE TRADE PREMISES.

The number of Offensive Trade Premises in the district is 7, a reduction of 1 (gut scraper) on last year's total. They are:—Size Makers, 2; Soap Boilers, 2; Tripe Boilers, 2; Tallow Melter, 1. At one of the soap works, owing to the increased number of employees, the existing sanitary accommodation was insufficient. Arrangements have been made for the provision of additional accommodation.

#### COWSHEDS.

There has been practically no change structurally during the year in regard to cowsheds. As previously stated, there are some which are unsatisfactory with respect to paving, light and ventilation, but fortunately, these are small in number. Cowkeepers are required to cleanse and limewash their sheds twice a year, viz: June and October and although little difficulty is experienced in getting the work done in June, there is not the same readiness to carry out the work in October. Generally speaking, however, the sheds are maintained in fair condition. Milk is produced for wholesale and retail distribution, on 68 farms, and 105 inspections have been made. There are now two dairies in the district.

#### SCAVENGING DEPARTMENT.

As shown by the following table (No. 1), there has been a considerable increase in the amount of refuse removed, viz: 478 loads above the 1919 total. Practically no increase in the number of dwelling-houses has occurred, therefore the most likely cause of the increase has been due to poor quality coal. A rough calculation of



the amount of refuse from a given population is one ton per day per 1,000, but for the present, over the greater part of the country, this estimate is upset, a much greater amount is being produced. In Ramsbottom three horses and carts and six men are engaged on the collection of house refuse practically the year round, (Summer-seat is dealt with by contract and is not included) and the work is carried out by day. Ashbins are emptied weekly, but the period for fixed ashpits and privy middens varies from three weeks upwards according to the capacity of the pit. From the latter statement it is apparent that the system of fixed receptacles is bad, not only from the users' standpoint, but also from that of the workmen who empty them.

Refuse in such places lies for weeks to putrify and to be detrimental to the health of people living thereby. Such places in the summer months are also lively breeding grounds for flies.

In regard to the disposal of refuse, the bulk from the town proper is dealt with at the destructor, while in outer districts tips are still used.

Nightsoil from closet receptacles is partly utilised with flue dust, road sweepings, etc., and after being worked up into a suitable manure, is sold to farmers and allotment holders and is used on the Council's own land.

The sanitary accommodation of the town is approximately as follows :—

Midden Privies :—

1. Middens .....	185
2. Closets attached to Middens.....	359
3. Pail Closets.....	616
4. Dry Ashpits (excluding Middens).....	914
5. Fresh Water Closets.....	1387
6. Waste Water Closets.....	1457
7. Ashbins .....	905

The following tables show (1) details of collection, and (2) the number of loads and places of disposal.



TABLE 1.  
DETAILS OF COLLECTION.

Month	Ashpits	Loads	Ashbins	Closet Recep- tacles	Cess- pools	Bar- rels
January .....	284	372	4075	3310	7	75
February ...	248	290	3260	2648	2	57
March .....	282	311	3140	2528	5	59
April .....	281	346	4195	3430	8	74
May .....	283	308	3260	2648	5	59
June .....	264	301	3260	2648	5	56
July .....	239	298	4075	3310	6	71
August .....	190	199	2445	1986	1	42
September...	296	347	4355	3640	10	81
October .....	294	296	3260	2648	4	59
November ...	264	289	3260	2648	12	64
December ...	305	342	4075	3310	6	74
Totals...	3230	3699	42660	34754	71	771
1919 Totals..	2752	3221	42260	34273	76	741
Increase .....	478	478	400	481	...	...
Decrease ....	...	...	...	...	5	30

TABLE 2.  
DETAILS OF DISPOSAL.

Month	Destructor	Ewood Bridge	Miller Street	Others	Total
January .....	140	...	34	198	372
February ...	137	...	26	127	290
March .....	137	...	23	151	311
April .....	169	...	42	135	346
May .....	152	...	27	129	308
June .....	110	...	25	166	301
July .....	179	...	33	86	298
August .....	124	...	17	58	199
September...	158	...	36	153	347
October .....	169	...	28	99	296
November ...	157	...	28	104	289
December ...	194	...	30	118	342
Totals...	1826	...	349	1524	3699
1919 Totals..	1923	10	361	927	3221
Increase .....	...	...	...	597	478
Decrease ....	97	10	12	...	...

## AN OBJECTIONABLE PRACTICE.

I have again to mention the objectionable practice which is prevalent in some degree in nearly all parts of the town, viz :—the throwing of tea-leaves on the road surface. I am glad however, to report that there is a distinct improvement. Wherever there are offenders the surroundings present a most untidy and dirty appearance. Verbal warnings are almost continually being given and printed notices are occasionally served. I beg to ask again through the medium of the Press, all householders who forgetfully transgress, to stop the practice and to destroy all such refuse by burning.

In concluding my report I beg to again express my appreciation of the services rendered by the workmen of my department and to thank you for your kindness and appreciation of our joint endeavours throughout the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant.

G. A. SHAW.

